*Supply of Kerosene oil to punja cultivators at reduced rates.*

61. *MR. M. N. NARAYANA MENON (*Kottayam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee has recommended that kerosene oil should be supplied to punja cultivators at a reduced price and

(*b*) whether any action is being taken in accordance with the above recommendation?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner*): (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) The matter is under consideration.

*Reconstruction of the Kayamkulam southern bridge.*

62. *MR. JACOB HASSAN SAIT (*Commerce and Industry, North*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the date on which the Kayamkulam southern bridge was closed for traffic;

(*b*) the date on which it was dismantled for reconstruction;

(*c*) the date on which the estimate was submitted to them and the date on which they sanctioned for the first time funds necessary for the starting of the work;

(*d*) the years in which provision was made in the budget for starting the work and the funds, if any, spent during the years for the same;

(*e*) whether any land is proposed to be acquired for the purpose, and, if so, the date on which the proceedings were started, the date on which the award was made and whether the land has been taken possession of by them and

(*f*) whether they have any definite proposals for carrying out the work in 1109, and, if so, the nature thereof?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: (*a*) In Audy 1101.

(*b*) In the beginning of 1104.

(*c*) Estimate for repairs to the platform was received on 11-3-1927, and was sanctioned by Government on 6-5-1927.

(*d*)

| *Year.* | *Budget grant.* | *Expenditure.* |
|---|---|---|
| 1103 | 3,590 | 572 |
| 1104 | 1,300 | 2,024 |
| 1105 | 1,500 | 2,403 |
| 1107 | 5,000 | .. |
| 1108 | 24,000 | 21,902 |
| 1109 | 5,000 | Not yet started. |

(*e*) The proposal for the acquisition of lands was received on 4-8-1931, the award was made on 2-8-1933 and the lands were taken possession of on 13-8-1933 and 9-9-1933.

(*f*) The revised design and estimate are under preparation and the work will be taken up in due course.

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MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know, how many bridges are there in the State for being reconstructed and how their conditions are at present?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I claim notice.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know from the Chief Engineer how many bridges have been reconstructed?

PRESIDENT: The question relates to one single bridge. By that it does not follow that you should ask supplementary questions covering all the bridges that require reconstruction. You cannot travel from China to Peru.

MR. M. N. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: May I know how many bridges require reconstruction as a result of inspection made by the Chief Engineer?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I claim notice.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether the Chief Engineer has personally inspected the Kayancolam southern bridge?

Mr. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Yes.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know when?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I have inspected on three occasions this particular bridge. If the member wants to know on what dates, I can only give that from my tour diary.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: That is the information I want.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Then I claim notice.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know the actual amount spent on that bridge, from 1101 to 1109?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: The bridge referred to by the member was dismantled for reconstruction in the beginning of 1104.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know, the total amount spent on that bridge from 1101 up to 1109?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: The expenditure relates from the beginning of 1104.

PRESIDENT: The member cannot go beyond the purport of the question.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know from the Chief Engineer the expenditure from 1104 to 1109?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: That has been answered.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: In expending the amount may I know from the member whether any money has been spent for the *actual* improvements of the bridge?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Most of the money was utilised for land acquisition.

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MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: Of Rs. 26,000 and odd, may I know how much was spent on the improvements of the bridge?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: No money was spent on improvements.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: Sir, with your permission I want to make a statement. The answers to this particular question are not before me. I am therefore unable to ask supplementary questions.

PRESIDENT: That is an arrangement already agreed upon by the House. Therefore the matter could not be helped.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: That is why I say we should be given printed answers so that we can ask supplementary questions. I am not able to catch the actual answers given by the official member.

PRESIDENT: I quite sympathise with you. All that I can say is that the question does not arise. This is an arrangement that came into existence long ago and agreed to by the House and as such could not be revoked at all. If at all it has to be changed, it must be done for good reasons.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: We will be satisfied if the official member gives once more the answers to the questions that are required by the member.

PRESIDENT: He will certainly do that.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know why out of this 26,000 rupees, not a pie was spent on the improvement of the bridge?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: The fact of the matter is that the rush of water in the river scoured the bed and uncovered the feet of the piles. The department tried to screw these piles further into the bed of the river but struck obstructions which prevented this being done. The bridge is now being redesigned.

MR. KOMILEZHATHU SANKARAN: May I know from the member whether the department is actually attempting to do the repair work? Has not the work begun yet?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: I have already said that the department has decided that a new bridge is necessary.

MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI: A point of order, Sir. In the printed question there is no part (*f*). But the Official member has given an answer.

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT: Probably there is a mistake in the printed question.

*Teaching of Arabic in English Schools.*

63. *MR. S. ADAM SAIT: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many Arabic teaching Munshies have been appointed in the Government English Schools since G. O. No. 2056 of 1916.



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